From: **Don Smeller** donsmeller@earthlink.net
Subject: Saturday at 10BitWorks
Date: September 20, 2015 at 6:51 PM
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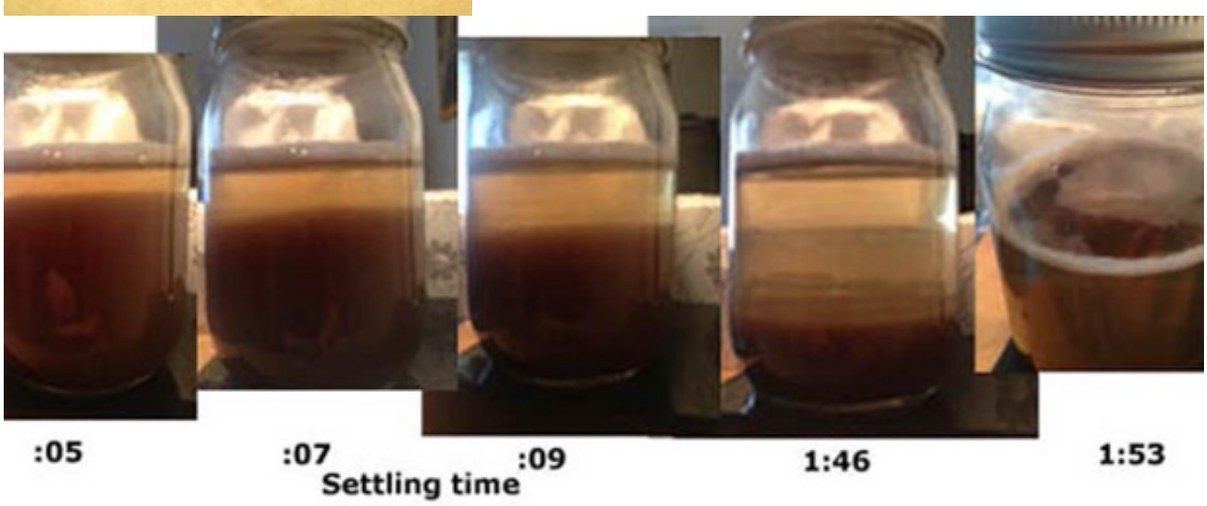
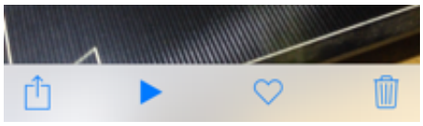
Weird moment. HEB Root Beer, diluted 50-50, EC'ed for about 2 hours, shaken vigorously, EC-ed again for maybe a half hour. Virtually no sediment was on the bottom at that moment Weird. Virtually all of it had risen to the top. Strong smell of root beer. Next day, shaken again, settling sequence recorded.



Do you know the concept of "a lick and a promise"?
(*British & Australian old-fashioned*) to clean something quickly and not carefully *I put on my new suit, gave my shoes a lick and a promise, and left the house.*

Well, the Burbank H.S. Robotics club have been giving their/our grandson printer a lick and a promise for way too long. And we, the 10Bit adults in the room, have been letting them. Way too many things are hanging by a thread on that 3D printer with the promise of doing it right, later. We began a week ago Saturday, doing it right. We bolted down the controller and began to reroute the wires. This Saturday we continued, moved the z-end stop, secured it, redid several dubious terminations. And it ran. But not well. The power supply needs to be upgraded from 12V to 24V. We cheated the temperature up. (heat gun and insulating blanket = lick and promise). The glass broke a long time ago (masking tape = lick and promise). The bed is more like a rocking boat than a firm base. Good grief, they lost a screw. (3 point suspension instead of 4 points = lick and promise).



We held a couple of classes Saturday, 3 learners for morning class, 14 for the afternoon. There is some amazing 3D CAD software out there on the web now. Free. It's called "OnShape". Beta version. It was developed by the same team who wrote SolidWorks. Ray Good and I are blown away by the functionality. I attempted to teach it to the Burbank high school robotics club kids. It was a BYO laptop class. The number of laptops owned by these high school kids: Zero. The number of smart phones (a.k.a. distractions) owned by the same group: 75% of them. Learning achieved: who knows. IMHO there is no substitute for hands-on-the-mouse learning. We have a chance to teach inner city Hispanic kids skills they can use to get real jobs. They are smart, they are eager, they are willing to show up. They did show up. But what did we feed them? Bupkiss. We need laptops with wifi and good graphics. About six of them. Ready for use by learners. Anybody know how we can get them?

The headcount was 28 plus maybe 4 more, whom I didn't get to meet.

Jonathan wanted to fix a broken key on his keyboard.
Mayte, Manual and Christian wanted help with a tennis court drying system.
Dave Sudolcan and Ray Good troubleshot the circuit board for the CNC Dyna-mill. Dave took it home for a closer look. It may be fried.
Kevin and Sue are putting finishing touches on their retro photo booth.
James rigged a Raspberry Pi to the grandfather printer so that it can be started and fed g-code remotely using OctoPrint
Ken and James took measurements of the 10Bit space in preparation for a Haunted House. Looks like John is getting involved too.
Desmond laid plans to build a tub caddy for his special lady.

Don S

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